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**PATENT APPLICATION**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Terunao HANAOKA

Group Art Unit: 2822

Application No.: 10/679,467

Examiner: T. Tran

Filed: October 7, 2003

Docket No.: 117462

For: SEMICONDUCTOR WAFER, SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE AND METHOD OF  
MANUFACTURING THE SAME, CIRCUIT BOARD, AND ELECTRONIC  
EQUIPMENT

**RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION AND ELECTION OF SPECIES REQUIREMENTS**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In reply to the March 23, 2005 Restriction and Election of Species Requirements,

Applicant provisionally elects Group II, claims 1-20 and 23, with traverse.

Furthermore, Applicant provisionally elects Species III (Figs. 9 and 10), with traverse.

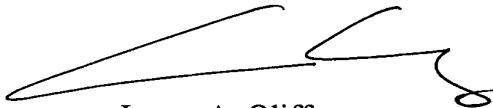
Applicant asserts that claims 11-18 and 23 read on Species III.

It is also respectfully submitted that the subject matter of all claims and species is sufficiently related that a thorough search for the subject matter of any one Group of claims and species would encompass a search for the subject matter of the remaining claims and species. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the search and examination of the entire application could be made without serious burden. See MPEP §803 in which it is stated that "if the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to independent or distinct inventions" (emphasis added). It is respectfully submitted that this policy should

apply in the present application in order to avoid unnecessary delay and expense to Applicants and duplicative examination by the Patent Office.

Thus, withdrawal of the Restriction and Election of Species Requirements is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: April 25, 2005

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